

ROUTING

Top Secret 218

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE DAILY CABLE

Saturday 14 January 1978 CG NIDC 78/011C

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NATIONAL SECURITY INFORMATION

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National Intelligence Daily Cable for Saturday, 14 January 1978.

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The NID Cable is for the purpose of informing senior US officials.

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RHODESIA: Patriotic Front Meeting

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[REDACTED] //Rhodesian nationalist Patriotic Front leader Robert Mugabe has announced that he and Joshua Nkomo, his partner in the front, will meet in Mozambique on Monday to consider their response to British Foreign Secretary Owen's invitation to discuss further the UK-US settlement proposals. Mugabe and Nkomo probably also will discuss how to react to Rhodesian Prime Minister Smith's settlement talks in Salisbury with internal black leaders. Press reports indicate that Smith and the internal blacks have reached a compromise agreement on white representation in a future parliament, but other issues remain to be resolved.//

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[REDACTED] //Although Mugabe and Nkomo have been taking a hard line on settlement terms, both remain interested in the UK-US plan. There is still little cooperation between the Mugabe and Nkomo factions, however, and the two leaders will reach agreement on a common approach to further settlement talks but not without difficulty. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] //Nkomo may have received promises of additional Cuban and Soviet military aid during recent discussions with officials in Havana and Moscow, but he does not appear to foresee a purely military solution in Rhodesia.//

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[REDACTED] //Nkomo and Mugabe may feel under more pressure to moderate their terms if Smith's talks with their rivals seem to be leading toward an internal settlement. According to the press, Smith and the internal black leaders have agreed that whites will hold 28 seats in a 100-member parliament, but they have not settled on the form or duration of a constitutional mechanism to protect white interests. They also have yet to agree on the composition of and control over the security forces.

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[REDACTED]

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ZAIRE: Military Disenchantment

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[redacted]
[redacted] Zairian forces based along the re-
gion's border with Angola would not be able to repel another
invasion like the one last March. [redacted]

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[redacted]
[redacted] President Mobutu [redacted]

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visited Shaba last week
for the second time in a month, reportedly after hearing that
a few disgruntled soldiers had threatened disturbances.

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[redacted] Mobutus exile enemies may be deliberately exploiting
the troops' frustrations. By keeping up cross-border guerrilla
forays and threatening larger trouble, they know Mobutu will
keep a large defensive force in Shaba. At the same time, the
low level of military activity deprives most soldiers of a
sense of mission or accomplishment. Their disenchantment is
likely to increase.

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